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IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amended claims.

72. A process for treating wood having wood cellulose having a plurality of hydroxyl groups comprising the steps of:

providing a solution consisting essentially of a non-water-based hydrophilic organic solvent and a solute having a functional group comprising an atom selected from the group consisting of trivalent, tetravalent and pentavalent atoms and combinations thereof, wherein said atom is bonded to functional group selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom hydroxyl group, alkoxy group, phenoxy group, benzyloxy group and an aryloxy group having a polycyclic aromatic ring and combinations thereof,

applying said solution to the wood cellulose,

covalently reacting said functional groups upon said applying to said wood.

73. The process according to claim 76 further comprising the steps of simultaneous reaction and diffusion of the monomers in the wood.

90. The process of claim 85 wherein the catalyst is from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, meta-phosphoric acid, poly-phosphoric acid, bases from metal alkoxides and Phosphoric acid, and combinations thereof.

97. The process of claim 72 wherein the solute compound comprises functional groups selected from the group consisting of  $R-Xa-Xb_3$ ,  $R_3-Xa-Xb$ ,  $R_2-Xa-Xb_2$ ,  $R_4-Xa$ , and  $XaR_3$  and combinations thereof wherein R is the carbon compound, Xa is the trivalent, tetravalent or pentavalent atom and Xb is a halogen or alkoxy or hydroxyl group.

1 106. A process for treating wood cellulose having a plurality of hydroxyl groups  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 providing a solution comprised of a non-water-based hydrophilic  
4 organic solvent and a solute having a plurality of monomers comprising an atom selected from  
5 the group consisting of tri-valent, tetravalent and pentavalent atoms, and combinations  
6 thereof, wherein said atom is bonded to a group consisting of a halogen atom, a hydroxyl  
7 group, alkoxy group, phenoxy group, benzyloxy group and an aryloxy group having a  
8 polycyclic aromatic ring or combination thereof,  
9 applying said solution to the wood cellulose; and simultaneously  
10 diffusing said solution within said wood and  
11 reacting said solute to form covalent bonds, and  
12 forming a matrix structure comprising reacted monomers and  
13 wood cellulose.

14 The commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required for the filing  
15 of this amendment and give credit for any over payment to deposit account 02-2169 in the  
16 name of Gregory Friedlander.

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18   
Gregory M. Friedlander 31, 511

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20 & Associates, P.C.